

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

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PRS-01 SPC-03 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-20 L-03 H-03 DRC-01

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, AR

SUBJECT: CURRENT LABOR ACTIVITIES

SUMMARY. LABOR EFFORTS TO OBTAIN WAGE ADJUSTMENTS ON BASIS OF INCREASE IN COL HAVE CREATED INTERNAL CGT DISSENSIONS AND STRAINED FABRIC OF ACT OF NATIONAL COMMITMENT. POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT PRESIDENT PERON WILL HAVE TO MAKE FINAL DETERMINATION ON ISSUE. FOLLOWING FRUSTRATED FREJULI BLOC ATTEMPTS TO ACCELERATE LEGISLATIVE ACTION ON TRADE UNION LAW OF PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS, IT NOW SLATED FOR CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION IN DEC. END SUMMARY

1. CGT EFFORTS TO OBTAIN WAGE ADJUSTMENTS HAS CREATED INTERNAL LABOR DISSENSION AND IS STRAINING RELATIONS WITH CGE, WEAKENING FABRIC OF ACT OF NATIONAL COMMITMENT. DESPITE WEEKS OF ALMOST DAILY DISCUSSIONS AND NEGOTIATIONS, THE CGT HAS BEEN UNABLE TO OBTAIN EITHER INTERNAL LABOR CONSENSUS OR ANY AGREEMENT WITH CGE OR GOA ON QUESTION OF WAGE ADJUSTMENTS BASED ON INCREASED COST OF LIVING. ONLY INTERNAL LABOR CONSENSUS IS FIRM OPPOSITION TO CGE PROPOSAL TO PASS ON HIGHER COSTS OF IMPORTED GOODS TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONSUMER PRICES. OFFICIAL PERONIST POSITION, SUPPORTED BY 62

ORGANIZATIONS HEAD MIGUEL, IS THAT WAGE ADJUSTMENTS SHOULD BE DELAYED UNTIL AFTER GOA THREE YEAR PLAN IS PRESENTED AND STUDIED. HOWEVER, THE MAJORITY OF CGT EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS, WHO ARE RESPONDING TO HEAVY UNION AND MEMBERSHIP PRESSURES, ARE HOLDING OUR FOR IMMEDIATE ADJUSTMENTS BASED ON LOSS OF PURCHASING POWER SUFFERED DURING PAST FEW MONTHS. CGT SOURCES INDICATED WAGE ADJUSTMENTS BETWEEN FIVE AND SEVEN PERCENT ARE BEING CONSIDERED. BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF LABOR CONSENSUS ON TIMING OF ADJUSTMENTS AND APPARENTLY DEAD-LOCKED POSITION WITH CGE, SPECULATION IS THAT ISSUE WILL BE ELEVATED TO PRESIDENT PERON FOR FINAL DECISION. IT IS UNLIKELY, THEREFORE, THAT FINAL DECISION WILL BE TAKEN BEFORE LAST HALF OF DECEMBER.

2. LEGISLATIVE CONSIDERATION OF CGT AND ORTHODOX PERONIST SPONSORED TRADE UNION LAW OF PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS HAS BEEN DELAYED UNTIL SPECIAL CONGRESSIONAL SESSION IN DEC. FREJULI BLOC EFFORTS TO ACCELERATE HOUSE CONSIDERATION OF BILL WERE FRUSTRATED NOV 28 WHEN IT FAILED TO OBTAIN REQUIRED TWO-THIRDS VOTE NECESSARY TO TAKE IT UP OUT OF NORMAL LEGISLATIVE ORDER. MEASURE, WITH MINOR REVISIONS, HAS ALREADY BEEN PASSED BY SENATE AND IS NOW SLATED FOR HOUSE CONSIDERATION ON DEC 5.

3. COMMENT. FAILURE TO OBTAIN NECESSARY TWO-THIRDS VOTE ON TRADE UNION ISSUE WAS FIRST SET-BACK FOR FREJULI BLOC SINCE OPENING OF CONGRESS. MOTION TO CONSIDER BILL FAILED BY ONE VOTE AS SEVERAL PERONIST YOUTH LEGISLATORS WERE CONVENIENTLY ABSENT WHEN VOTE WAS TAKEN, AND OPPOSITION LEGISLATORS VOTED UNANIMOUSLY AGAINST IT. ALTHOUGH SET-BACK WILL HAVE NO IMPACT ON FINAL APPROVAL OF BILL, IT IS FURTHER INDICATION OF PERONIST YOUTH LEGISLATORS' DETERMINATION TO MAKE PUBLIC THEIR OBJECTIONS TO BILL, ALTHOUGH THEY ARE COMMITTED TO SUPPORT ITS FINAL PASSAGE UNDER CONDITIONS OF PERONIST VERTICALITY OF COMMAND.

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